

types of effluents that may be released offsite, or would significantly increase the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this proposed exemption will have no significant radiological or nonradiological environmental impacts.

#### *Alternative to the Proposed Action*

Since there is no significant environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact are not evaluated. The alternative to the proposed action would be to deny approval of the exemption and, therefore, require the preoperational test acceptance criteria and test report to be submitted 30 days prior to receipt of spent fuel, rather than 3 days as proposed. This alternative would have no significant environmental impacts as well. However, denial of the requested exemption could result in loss of full core offload capability. The licensee is not required to maintain a full core offload capability, however, it is an operationally advantageous capability.

#### *Agencies and Persons Consulted*

An official from the State of Virginia Bureau of Radiological Health was contacted about this EA for the proposed action and had no concerns.

#### **Finding of No Significant Impact**

The environmental impacts of the proposed action have been reviewed in accordance with the requirements set forth in 10 CFR part 51. Based upon the foregoing EA, the Commission finds that the proposed action of granting an exemption from 10 CFR 72.82(e) so that Virginia Power may submit a preoperational test acceptance criteria and test report 3 days prior to receipt of spent fuel at the North Anna ISFSI will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

This application was docketed under 10 CFR part 72, Docket 72-16. For further details with respect to this action, see the application for an ISFSI license dated May 9, 1995, and the request for exemption dated June 12, 1998, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20555, and the Local Public Document Room at the University of Virginia, Alderman Library, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 24th day of June 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
**William F. Kane,**  
*Director, Spent Fuel Project Office, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*  
[FR Doc. 98-17608 Filed 7-1-98; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

### **Consolidated Guidance About Materials Licenses: Program-Specific Guidance About Academic, Research & Development, and Other Licenses of Limited Scope, Availability of Draft NUREG**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is announcing the availability of and requesting comment on draft NUREG-1556, Volume 7, "Consolidated Guidance about Materials Licenses: Program-Specific Guidance about Academic, Research & Development, and Other Licenses of Limited Scope," dated May 1998.

NRC is using Business Process Redesign (BPR) techniques to redesign its materials licensing process, as described in NUREG-1539, "Methodology and Findings of the NRC's Materials Licensing Process Redesign." A critical element of the new process is consolidating and updating numerous guidance documents into a NUREG-series of reports. This draft NUREG report is the seventh program-specific guidance developed to support an improved materials licensing process.

The guidance is intended for use by applicants, licensees, NRC license reviewers, and other NRC personnel. The draft NUREG combines and updates the guidance for applicants and licensees previously found in (1) Regulatory Guide 10.2, Revision 1, "Guidance To Academic Institutions Applying For Specific Byproduct Material Licenses of Limited Scope," dated December 1976, (2) Regulatory Guide 10.7, "Guide For The Preparation Of Applications For Licenses For Laboratory and Industrial Use of Small Quantities of Byproduct Material," dated August 1979, and (3) Draft Regulatory Guide FC 405-4, "Guide for the Preparation of Applications for Licenses for the Use of Sealed Sources in Gas Chromatography Devices and X-Ray Fluorescence Analyzers," dated February 1985. In addition, this draft report also contains pertinent

information found in Technical Assistance Requests and Information Notices. This draft report is for public comment only, and is NOT for use in preparing or reviewing applications until it is published in final form. It is being distributed for comment to encourage public participation in its development.

**DATES:** The comment period ends September 30, 1998. Comments received after that time will be considered if practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments to: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Hand deliver comments to 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Federal workdays. Comments may also be submitted through the Internet by addressing electronic mail to DLM1@NRC.GOV.

Those considering public comment may request a free single copy of draft NUREG-1556, Volume 7, by writing to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Mrs. Sally L. Merchant, Mail Stop TWFN 9-F-31, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Alternatively, submit requests through the Internet by addressing electronic mail to slm2@nrc.gov. A copy of draft NUREG-1556, Volume 7, is also available for inspection and/or copying for a fee in the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW. (Lower Level), Washington, DC 20555-0001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mrs. Sally L. Merchant, Mail Stop TWFN 9-F-31, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, telephone (301) 415-7874; electronic mail address: slm2@nrc.gov.

#### **Electronic Access**

Draft NUREG-1556, Vol. 7 will be available electronically by visiting NRC's Home Page (<http://www.nrc.gov/nrc/nucmat.html>) approximately two weeks after the publication date of this notice.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 24th day of June, 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Frederick C. Combs,**  
*Acting Director, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*  
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